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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, September 11, 1986 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended September 6 totaled an estimated 15.1 billion ton-miles, 3.6 percent above the corresponding week of 1985, the Association of American Railroads reported today (both weeks included the Labor Day holiday).

Cumulative volume for the first 36 weeks of 1986 was an estimated 606.5 billion ton-miles, 0.3 percent lower than the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended September 6 totaled 331,552, down 0.4 percent from the corresponding week of last year, and 13.5 percent lower than the preceding non-holiday week. Compared with last year, loadings were up 7.0 percent in the West, but down 7.2 percent in the East and 5.9 percent in the South.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 14 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. However, grain showed a gain of 4,948 cars (31.2 percent) and metallic ores increased by 5,613 cars (57.8 percent). Nineteen of the 21 commodity groups decreased from the preceding non-holiday week.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended August 30 totaled 104,750 trailers and/or containers, 5.3 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 35 weeks of the year was 3,295,033 trailers and/or containers, up 9.5 percent from 1985.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 09/06/86:

	Loadings in Week ended September 6, 1986		Change from Corresponding Week 1985			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	20,789	I	4,948	31.2	D	2,284	9.9
Other farm products	2,466	I	201	8.9	D	245	9.0
Metallic ores	15,319	I	5,613	57.8	I	1,170	8.3
Coal	97,986	D	7,521	7.1	D	14,842	13.2
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	11,923	D	334	2.7	D	2,893	19.5
Nonmetallic minerals	7,196	D	2,842	28.3	D	345	4.6
Grain mill products	9,179	I	337	3.8	D	1,308	12.5
Food and kindred products	9,328	D	249	2.6	D	1,443	13.4
Primary forest products	8,316	D	675	7.5	D	1,913	18.7
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,282	I	716	12.9	D	2,138	25.4
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,093	D	576	4.5	D	510	4.0
Chemicals and allied products	21,656	I	162	0.8	D	4,110	16.0
Petroleum products	3,921	D	317	7.5	D	1,257	24.3
Stone, clay and glass products	8,807	D	798	8.3	D	2,083	19.1
Coke	3,606	D	948	20.8	D	68	1.9
Metals and products	6,430	D	945	12.8	D	1,375	17.6
Motor vehicles and equipment	16,432	D	1,748	9.6	D	2,422	12.8
Waste and scrap materials	6,343	D	736	10.4	D	1,623	20.4
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	2,913	D	2,932	50.2	D	771	20.9
All other carloads	60,456	I	7,326	13.8	D	11,329	15.8
LCL traffic	111	D	3	2.6	I	18	19.4
Total Cars Loaded	331,552	D	1,321	0.4	D	51,771	13.5
Corresponding week of 1985	332,873						

	1986	1985	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (36 weeks)	13,364,453	13,467,690	D 0.8
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
35 Weeks ended August 30	591.4	593.9	D 0.4
Week ended September 6	15.1	14.6	I 3.6
36 Weeks cumulative	606.5	608.5	D 0.3

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